Improved regional trade relations

3564. SHRI E. M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether diplomacy in oil and gas sector with Pakistan, Afghanistan, Myanmar and Bangladesh has developed better regional trade relations; and

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to strengthen the relationship as regional multilateral trade relation and affirmed as regional organization trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND
INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Bilateral trade between India and Iraq

3565. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that after the installation of a democratic Government in Iraq, the prospects of bilateral trade between India and Iraq have brightened;

(b) if so, whether India has sought MFN status from Iraq;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) As per information available, the process Of installation of the new democratic Government in Iraq has not been completed yet.

(b) to (d) only after the process of installation of the new Government in Iraq is completed, further matters of bilateral relations, including MFN status, could be discussed.

Target for exports

†3566. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a target of export worth 92 billion dollars has been fixed for the year 2005-2006;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.